

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 10, 9th full paragraph, please amend as follows:

Fig. 10 is a schematic cross-sectional view showing a self-propelled member according to a second embodiment of the invention and Fig. 10A illustrates an embodiment where self-propelled member is supported by an air layer;

Page 11, 1st full paragraph, please amend as follows:

Fig. 13 is a schematic cross-sectional view showing a self-propelled member according to a fourth embodiment of the invention and Fig. 13A illustrates an embodiment where self-propelled member is supported by an air layer.

Page 18, 3rd full paragraph, please amend as follows:

Fig. 10 shows a second embodiment in which an air bearing is adopted and Fig. 10 A illustrates an embodiment of the moving member supported by the air bearing. In this embodiment, a compact compressor 120 is mounted on a self-propelled member 70, and the compact compressor 120 causes compressed air to blow by way of a nozzle formed in substantially the center of the lower face of the self-propelled member 70. The air is caused to flow in every direction along the lower face of the self-propelled member 70. A thin air layer (having a thickness of e.g., tens of microns) is formed between the self-propelled member 70 and a traveling face (i.e., the face of the platen 72). The self-propelled member is supported by the air layer. Since slide resistance existing between the self-propelled member 70 and the traveling face is considerably small. Hence, the self-propelled member 70 can travel considerably smoothly and freely with agility in every direction.